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Zimmerman's wife arrested, accused of perjury

From **Vivian Kuo**, CNN updated 5:32 AM EDT, Wed June 13, 2012



STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- Shellie N. Zimmerman makes bond
- She is accused of perjury regarding testimony about family finances
- Her husband is charged with second-degree murder in the death of Trayvon Martin

(CNN) -- George Zimmerman's wife was arrested Tuesday afternoon for allegedly lying at his bond hearing about the couple's finances.

Shellie N. Zimmerman, 25, faces a perjury charge, according to Jackie Barnard, spokeswoman for the State Attorney's office for the Fourth Judicial District of Florida. She met conditions for a \$1,000 bond and was released Tuesday afternoon, according to the Seminole County Sheriff's Office.

At her husband's April 20 bond hearing, Shellie Zimmerman was asked whether the couple had financial means to assist in the defense.

"Uhm, not -- not that I'm aware of," she replied, according to a probable cause affidavit filed Monday.







She also testified under oath she was not aware of how much had been raised from a website soliciting cash for George Zimmerman's defense in the February shooting death of Trayvon Martin, 17, in Sanford, Florida. Zimmerman said he acted in self-defense.

In April, Zimmerman was charged with second-degree murder after the case was referred to a state attorney for a review. He was released from custody later that month after posting bail.

On June 1, Seminole County Judge Kenneth Lester Jr. ordered Zimmerman back to jail, accusing the suspect of not being truthful about how much money he had access to when his bond was set.

Prosecutors alleged that George Zimmerman, 28, actually





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Timeline of events in Trayvon Martin case

updated 11:02 PM EDT, Tue June 12, 2012



Here's a look at the events in the fatal shooting of Trayvon Martin in Sanford, Florida, and the ensuing uproar.

Police: Trayvon Martin's death 'ultimately avoidable'

updated 11:13 AM EDT, Fri May 18, 2012



Florida, urged prosecutors to take George Zimmerman into custody after arguing his killing of Trayvon Martin w as "ultimately avoidable."



nad about \$135,000.

According to the affidavit, prepared by an investigator with the State Attorney's office, the Zimmermans discussed finances via phone before the April 20 bond hearing.

Those talks included the transfer of money from George Zimmerman's account to accounts of his sister and wife, according to the affidavit.

Records show \$47,000 was transferred from George Zimmerman's account to his sister's account from April 16 and 17, authorities allege. Shellie Zimmerman transferred more than \$74,000 from her husband's account to her account from April 16 to April 19, the affidavit states

George Zimmerman asked his wife in jail calls to "pay off all the bills," including an American Express bill and a Sam's Club card, prosecutors allege.

On April 24, after his release on bond, Shellie Zimmerman transferred more than \$85,500 from her account back to George Zimmerman's account, according to the affidavit.

Shellie Zimmerman will be arraigned July 31.

Prosecutors have alleged the Zimmermans spoke in code when discussing the money in a credit union account, according to court documents filed by State Attorney Angela B. Corey.

Zimmerman "fully controlled and participated in the transfer of money from the PayPal account to defendant and his wife's credit union accounts," Corey said in court records. "This occurred prior to the time defendant was arguing to the court that he was indigent and his wife had no money."

The judge "relied on false representations and statements" by Zimmerman and his wife when the court set his bond at \$150,000, Corey said. Zimmerman was required to post only 10% of that.

Defense lawyers have argued that "the vast majority of the funds in question are in an independently managed trust" that Zimmerman and his attorneys cannot access directly.

"The audio recordings of Mr. Zimmerman's phone conversation while in jail make it clear that Mr. Zimmerman knew a significant sum had been raised by his original fundraising website," attorneys said last week. "We feel the failure to disclose these funds was caused by fear, mistrust and confusion. The gravity of this mistake has been distinctly illustrated, and Mr. Zimmerman understands that this mistake has undermined his credibility, which he will have to work to repair."

The attorneys said Zimmerman did disclose the existence of the funds five days after the bond hearing, during his first conversation with the defense about the fund. "When the defense team learned of the funds, we disclosed this to the court and to the State Attorney's Office, and the money was transferred to the Legal Defense Fund, which is now independently managed," the defense said.

Of the \$204,000 raised by the website, about \$150,000 is now in the defense fund and \$30,000 was used "to make the complicated transition from private life in Sanford, Florida, to a life in hiding as a defendant in a high-profile court case."

The remainder, about \$20,000, "was kept liquid to provide living expenses for the first several months as the legal process unfolds," attornevs said.

Chief: Give watchers 'good, hard look'

updated 8:50 AM EDT, Wed May 9, 2012



The police chief in Sanford, Florida, said communities should "take a good, hard look at w ho is selected" for neighborhood w atch programs.

Fine line between self-defense, murder



The Martin case renewed scrutiny of Florida's 2005 "Stand Your Ground" law and others like it.

The judge: No 'soft touch'

updated 10:10 PM EDT, Wed April 18, 2012



The judge in George Zimmerman case has received high ratings from defense law yers but isn't know n as a "soft touch."

Tough, controversial prosecutor

updated 6:26 PM EDT, Wed April 11, 2012



State Attorney Angela Corey is known to be ready to pursue what she believes is right, even amid media glare and public pressure.

Task force meets to review Florida's 'stand your ground' law

updated 3:13 PM EDT, Tue May 1, 2012



The leader of a task examining Florida's "stand your ground" law said the panel's job goes beyond the Trayvon Martin

Sanford: A community divided



National attention on the Trayvon Martin shooting has put Sanford in the spotlight. Residents agree the death is tragic yet remain divided when it comes to racism

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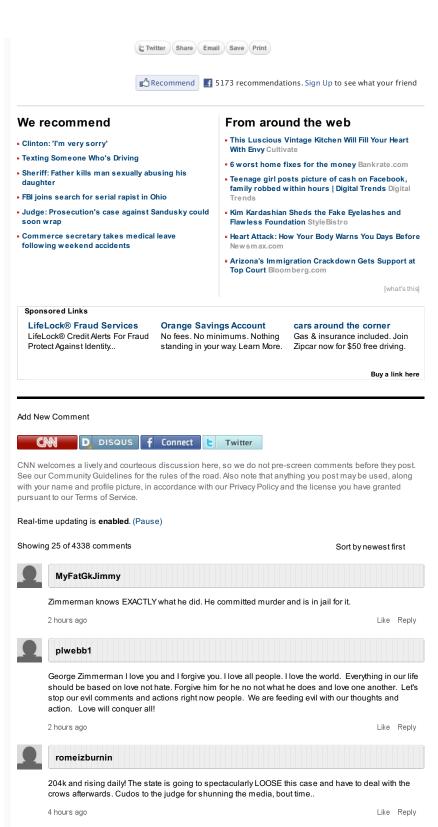
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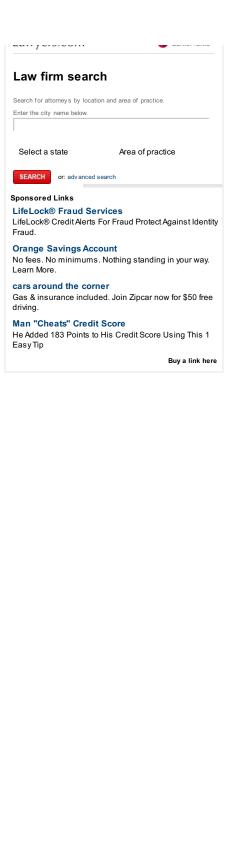
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4 hours ago in reply to romeizburnin 2 Likes

5 hours ago 4 Likes Like Reply



Scorpio57

They thought that they had hit the jackpot with the donations

George and Shellie Zimmerman struggled with money problems. The year they married, he was sued, accused of failing to pay a credit card bill. Three years later, she was sued for the same thing. Both were in and out of community college, records show, and spent their first years together in a home owned by her parents.

8 hours ago 2 Likes Like Reply



Scorpio57

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8 hours ago 1 Like Reply



wascodude

Shellie has a face a mother couldnt love. But then again this could be the new face of the right wing republican party.

8 hours ago 2 Likes Like Reply



cajuncatdude

Zimmerman will walk so the blacks have to settle for trumped up stuff.

12 hours ago Like Reply



crhoward999

This is starting to smell like a witch hunt.

12 hours ago 5 Likes Like Reply



snefler

close your mouth and tell us if you still smell it.

8 hours ago in reply to crhoward999 6 Likes



jahoney12

I believe is facing at least a contempt of court charge from the judge which could land her in jail for year and at least one third degree felony perjury charge. Looking at at least two years in jail if convicted of perjury and the contempt charge.

12 hours ago 4 Likes Like Reply



jetsetter59

So what is she facing when found guilty?

12 hours ago Like Reply



NelsonE

Why should the judge be "outraged"?He's not the one that messed up,that lunatic zimmerman did and that's why he's back in jail where he belongs.

14 hours ago 5 Likes Like Reply



Bohemer

Ditto the Iunatic Martin

8 hours ago in reply to NelsonE

Like

Like



CanesXXIV

If Trayvon attacked Zimmerman and Zimmerman feared for his life does he have the right to shoot Trayvon?

14 hours ago 1 Like Reply



MyOpinion05

Not in Florida. Because in this specific case, Zimmerman confronted trayvon, catalyzing the event, making it legally zimmermans fault. Since he was "advancing" his ground rather than "standing his ground" he legally had no right to use force.

14 hours ago in reply to CanesXXIV 10 Likes



CanesXXIV

The law doesn't read that way. If you confront or start a conversation with someone that does not give them the legal right to harm you, nor does it put you into a position where you cannot claim self defense.

14 hours ago in reply to MyOpinion05 1 Like Like



LoveMyGirl

Trolls are stupid, I agree.

14 hours ago 1 Like Like Reply



NelsonE

The judge didn't call that spineless woman-beating-child abusing coward zimmerman that, I did. And what of it? It's nothing but the truth.

14 hours ago 4 Likes Like Reply



Bohemer

whoa, we have an "expert" that gleans pure truth from massmedia catering to the sensation-eager crowds..Whoa again.

8 hours ago in reply to NelsonE Like



NelsonE

From the judge's own statement that spineless coward zimmerman "has had an injunction against him for domestic violence", now why did the court place "an injunction against" (order of protection) zimmerman for "domestic violence" if he's such a law abiding and upstanding citizen? Does anyone care to expand on that?He (zimmerman) wasn't acquitted of the domestic violence charge and what's more there was an order of protection (injunction) filed against him. Let us not forget that the spineless coward zimmerman also assaulted a police officer, yet there are those that fervently support that woman-beating bully coward zimmerman? "Most importantly, though, is the fact that he has now demonstrated that he does not properly respect the law or the integrity of the judicial process," judge

14 hours ago 10 Likes Like Reply



cwoods524

Just leave him alone

15 hours ago 1 Like Like Reply



lovetan

Okay we get how many feel about Al, Jesse, Black Panther, Obama, Spike Lee.....but how do you feel about the racism that we see everyday especially on here?

15 hours ago 5 Likes Like Reply



lovetan

What is your point? I've stated that racism was everywhere?

14 hours ago in reply to lovetan 2 Likes

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